

BISHOPTHORPE  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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1908.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE  
BISHOPTHORPE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
FOR THE YEAR 1908.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BISHOPTHORPE  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting for your consideration my Report for the year 1908:—

The area of the District is 5,550 acres.

The population, 1,960.

## BIRTH-RATE.

The births registered are 41, 20 males and 21 females. There were no illegitimate births. The birth-rate is 20·9 per 1,000 of the population, the average for the previous ten years was 26·5. The rate for England and Wales for 1908 is 26·5.

## DEATH-RATE.

The deaths registered are 24, 15 males and 9 females, giving a death-rate of 12·2 per 1,000 per annum. For 1907 it was 14·2. Two residents died in Public Institutions outside the District, and 2 non-residents died in the District during the year. For England and Wales in 1908 the rate was 14·7. The infantile mortality rate per 1,000 births registered is 96, against 182 in 1907. For England and Wales the rate is 121 per 1,000 births.

The Zymotic death rate is 1·5.

## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1908.

There were 24 deaths :—Measles, 1 ; Enteritis, 2 ; Phthisis, 3 ; other Tubercular Diseases, 1 ; Cancer, 2 ; Bronchitis, 1 ; Pneumonia, 3 ; Premature Birth, 1 ; Heart Disease, 1 ; all other causes, 9.

## CASES REPORTED UNDER THE NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACT.

Diphtheria, 4 ; Scarlet Fever, 1 ; Enteric Fever, 2 ; total, 7 ; against 28 in 1907.

ENTERIC FEVER.—During the years 1906 and 1907 we had no cases ; this year we have had 2. The first, an adult male, occurred at a house in the North Lane Brickyard, Dringhouses, in July. On examination I found the house and premises in a healthy and sanitary condition. On testing the drinking water, which is obtained from a well, I discovered it contained sewage. The well was thoroughly cleaned out and repaired, and later the water will be tested again.

The second case occurred at a farm-house on Dringhouses Moor. Here I was unable to trace the origin of the disease ; the premises and drainage were free from sanitary defects, and the water was obtained from the York water supply. Both patients made a good recovery. The houses, bedding, etc., were thoroughly stoved and disinfected.

SCARLET FEVER.—1 case. This occurred at Bishopthorpe, and was an imported one from Milnes Bridge. We were fortunate, by means of early isolation into the Acomb Fever Hospital, to cut short what might have been a serious epidemic. The patient had been admitted into a house containing four children, all of whom were attending the village school. Apart from this case we had no further Scarlet Fever during the year. This is highly satisfactory considering the severe epidemic we had in 1907, when there were 17 cases.

DIPHTHERIA.—4 cases as against 9 in 1907. Three occurred in a house on Dringhouses Moor, one of which proved fatal after being removed to the Acomb Fever Hospital. The house and

drains I found on examination to be satisfactory. The Dringhouses Beck, a few yards away, however, was very offensive, and was being greatly complained of by the inhabitants in the neighbourhood. Steps were taken by the Council to temporarily abate the nuisance, and shortly, I hope, to prevent its recurrence ~~the~~ *the* drain which pours sewage into the beck will be extended into the Dringhouses sewerage system.

The fourth case occurred in the North Lane, Dringhouses, and was an imported one. The patient was at once removed to the Acomb Fever Hospital.

Great care is always taken on the outbreak of notifiable infectious disease to get early and efficient isolation, and the houses, clothing, etc., are thoroughly stoved and disinfected. By these means the spread of infectious disease is cut short.

Apart from the imported case of Scarlet Fever at Bishopthorpe, it will be seen that Dringhouses is the only village in which infectious disease, coming under the Notification of Infectious Diseases Act, has originated—Copmanthorpe, Acaster Malbis, Middlethorpe, and Askham Richard, have been entirely free.

#### PUBLIC SCAVENGING.

This is the only satisfactory means of knowing that privies and ashpits are being properly kept in a sanitary condition. Too often these places become neglected and are hotbeds of disease, especially in the summer months. Flies multiply there in thousands, and, as you are aware, these pests are known to be active carriers of disease. I hope the Council will see the wisdom of adopting Public Scavenging in their District.

#### WATER SUPPLY OF DISTRICT.

A better water supply for Copmanthorpe is being considered by the Council; when carried out it will be a great boon to the inhabitants.

#### COWSHEDS, DAIRIES, &c.

These are in good condition, and are frequently inspected.

### BYE-LAWS.

These are being laid before the Council, and, if adopted, should be of advantage to the District.

### PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.

The 1,000 handbills distributed in the District bearing on this subject should be a means of helping to check the growth of this distressing disease. Any house where death has occurred from Phthisis is fumigated and disinfected by the Inspector.

### FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

The two factories in the District receive systematic attention, and are in good condition.

### REARING OF INFANTS.

The extremely useful pamphlet issued by Dr. Kaye on this subject and distributed to the mothers in the District should be of great value in helping us to lower the Infantile Mortality rate. It is pleasing to see such a reduction this year—96 per 1,000 compared with the 182 the previous year.

### THE NEW EDUCATION ACT

(re Medical Examination of School Children, etc.),  
should be of advantage in helping to improve the health and general condition of the school children.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

ALWYN RAIMES, M.D.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

# **VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1908 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.**

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents Registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.				Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births Registered.	Number.	Rate.*				
1898	1855	48	25.8	8	4.3	33	17.7	—	—	—	—
1899	„	53	28.5	10	5.3	33	17.7	—	—	—	—
1890	„	50	26.9	7	3.7	27	14.5	—	—	—	—
1901	1960	53	26.5	5	2.5	26	13.2	—	—	—	—
1902	„	51	26.2	6	3.0	27	13.7	—	—	—	—
1903	„	57	29.0	5	2.5	23	11.7	—	—	21	10.7
1904	„	62	31.6	19	9.0	35	17.8	—	—	38	19.3
1905	„	64	32.6	13	6.6	34	17.3	2	—	33	16.8
1906	„	46	23.4	4	1.0	23	11.7	2	—	22	11.2
1907	„	38	19.3	7	3.5	28	14.2	1	—	27	13.7
Averages for years 1898-1907	1928½	52½	26.5	8½	3.4	28½	14.6	—	—	—	—
1908	1960	41	20.9	4	2.0 (96)	24	12.2	2	2	24	12.2

\* Rates in columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) . . . 5,550.

Total population at all ages . . . . .	1,960	} At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses . . . . .	429	
Average number of persons per house . . . . .	4	

Institutions outside the District receiving Sick and Infirm Persons from the District.	Other Institutions, the Deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
York County Hospital.	Deaths under the heading " Public Institutions in the District " were 2 Suicides ; one in the river Ouse, the other in Dringhouses brickponds ; both were non-residents.
York Union Workhouse.	
Is the Union Workhouse within the District ? No.	

# **VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES IN 1908 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.**

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1898 .. .. .	1,855	48	33	8
1899 .. .. .	"	53	33	10
1900 .. .. .	"	50	27	7
1901 .. .. .	1,960	53	26	5
1902 .. .. .	"	51	27	6
1903 .. .. .	"	57	23	5
1904 .. .. .	"	62	35	19
1905 .. .. .	"	64	34	13
1906 .. .. .	"	46	23	4
1907 .. .. .	"	38	28	7
Averages of Years 1898 to 1907 .. .. .	1,928 $\frac{1}{2}$	52 $\frac{1}{5}$	28 $\frac{9}{10}$	8 $\frac{2}{5}$
1908 .. .. .	1,960	41	24	4

## **CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1908.**

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in whole District						Total Cases Notified in each Locality.	No. of Cases Removed to Hospital from each Locality
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65		
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	4	—	—	4	—	—	4	2
Scarlet Fever ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Enteric Fever ..	2	—	—	—	1	1	2	—
TOTALS ..	7	—	—	4	1	2	7	3

Isolation Hospitals —Ouseburn Isolation Hospital and York County Hospital  
(the latter for Typhoid cases occasionally).

**CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE  
YEAR 1908.**

Causes of Death	Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents, whether occurring in or beyond the District.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.
Measles .. .. .	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Enteritis .. .. .	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuber- culosis) .. .. .	3	—	—	—	1	2	—
Other tuberculous diseases ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cancer, malignant disease ..	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Bronchitis .. .. .	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia .. .. .	3	—	—	1	1	1	—
Alcoholism	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver }	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth .. .. .	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Heart Diseases .. .. .	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
All other causes .. .. .	9	1	—	—	—	2	6
All causes .. .. .	24	4	1	1	2	7	9

## INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

### DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 Week.	1—2 Weeks.	2—3 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1—2 Months.	2—3 Months.	3—6 Months.	6—12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
ALL CAUSES.—Certified .. ..	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	4
Diarrhoeal Diseases— Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis .. ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Wasting Diseases— Premature Birth .. ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes— Convulsions .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Bronchitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS .. ..	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	4

Births in the year—Legitimate, 41 ; Illegitimate, 0.

Deaths in the year of legitimate infants, 0 ; Illegitimate infants, 0.

Deaths from all causes at all ages, 24.

Population (estimated to middle of 1908) 1,960.

## FACTORIES INSPECTIONS.

### 1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Factories (including Workshop Laundries) .. ..	12
	Inspections.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.—None.

**TABLE C.—1908.****WATER SUPPLY—**

Any development during 1908? No.  
 Developments still needed? Yes.  
 Has public supply been continuous? Yes.  
 Any complaint as to action on lead? No.

**SEWERAGE—**

Developments during 1908? None.  
 Any complaints as to offensive Manholes? No.

**SEWAGE DISPOSAL—**

Any complaint as to outfall works? No.

**SCAVENGING—**

Performed by owners and tenants.  
 Annual cost. Not known.

**BY-LAWS—**

Any adopted or sanctioned during 1908? No.

**ADOPTIVE ACTS—**

Any steps taken for the consideration, adoption, or application of :—  
 (a) Notification of Births Act, 1907? No.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	No. in District.	Total No. of Inspections made.	General Condition?	Legal Proceedings (if any).
Common lodging-houses ..	—	—	—	None.
Canal boats .. .. .	—	—	—	None.
Slaughter-houses .. ..	2	2	Good.	None.
Cowsheds .. .. .	6	6	Good.	None.
Offensive trades .. ..	—	—	—	None.

Any nuisance from fish-frying? No.

**COWSHEDS—**

Any special inspection made during 1908? No.  
 Any action taken by outside authorities, e.g., under "Milk  
 Clauses" concerning milk supplied from this District? } No.

**INFECTIOUS DISEASE—**

Any suspected spread by rats, dogs, cats, fowls, flies or fleas? No.

**ISOLATION HOSPITAL—**

Any observation on adequacy or efficiency? No.

**SCHOOLS—**

Any ailment or contagious disease associated  
 particularly with school life during 1908? } No.

**MIDWIVES ACT, 1902—**

Are there any uncertified women attending confinements )  
 without a doctor? .. .. . ) None known.

## DWELLINGS—

Number of houses built during 1908. 3.  
 General character. 1 large hall and 2 seven-roomed houses.  
 Do the new houses accord with By-Laws? Yes.  
 Who sees plans? E. T. Felgate, Surveyor.  
 Any *occupied* houses unfit for habitation? No.  
 Any overcrowding of persons in houses? No.  
 Any action taken under the Housing of the Working Classes Acts? No.  
 Is house-to-house inspection systematically made? Yes.  
 Are records kept? No.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY—

What organised effort to control it? None.  
 Do you recommend appointment of Health Visitors? No.

## PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION—

Any system of notification? No.  
 Any sanitary inspection of patients' houses? No.  
 Any disinfection of patients' houses? Yes.  
 Any distribution of advice? Yes.  
 Any action *re* spitting? No.  
 Any disinfection of public rooms, vehicles, &c.? No.

## NUISANCES—

Total number of nuisances in hand at close of 1907. 7.  
 At close of 1908. 1.  
 Reported during 1908. 14.  
 Abated during 1908. 20.  
 Total number of legal notices served for abatement of nuisances during 1908. None.  
 Total number of summonses or other legal proceedings. None.  
 Number of sink wastes disconnected during 1908. None.  
 Number of sink wastes trapped during 1908. None.  
 Number of closets newly constructed during 1908. 6.  
 Kinds—Water closets.  
 Number of closets reconstructed during 1908. None.  
 Number of house-drains tested. None.

## WHAT ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN IN REGARD TO THE FOLLOWING MATTERS?

Seizures of unsound food. None. Prosecutions. None.  
 Samples under Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. None. Prosecutions. None.  
 Number of smoke observations taken. None.  
 Legal notices. None.  
 Summonses. None.  
 No. of Allotments provided under the Acts or otherwise during 1908. None.

## BIRTHS DURING 1908—

Males, 20. Females, 21. Total, 41.  
 Number of illegitimate, included in above. None.  
 Number of still-births (not included). None.

## DEATHS DURING 1908—

(1) Gross deaths, i.e., total actually registered in the District, without any correction. 24.  
 (2) Net deaths, on which the rates are calculated—  
 Males, 15. Females, 9. Total, 24.  
 Number uncertified, included in the above. None.

## SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF DISTRICT, AND SUGGESTIONS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—

Fresh water supply for Copmanthorpe.  
 Public scavenging.

